



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

QM31/0504

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/123,277	07/28/98	028	TRUONG, K	3731 05/04/99
First Named Applicant	MOOREVILLE, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION SURGICAL PENILE DILATOR INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR ITS USE

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 363	606-191.000	S57	UTILITY	YES	\$605.00	08/04/99

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.
If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

- II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.
Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Art Unit: 3731

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Meise on 4/29/99.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 19, replaced "distal portion" with --distal end--.

Claim 11, line 1, replaced "claim 8" with --claim 9--.

Claim 12, line 9, deleted "said" and line 13, replaced "distal portion" with --distal end--.

Claim 17, line 3, replaced "said first" with --a first--.

Claim 18, line 1, after "claim 12," inserted --wherein said handle portion includes a flat

91 region which lies parallel with said axis of elongation,--.

Claim 19, line 26, replaced "distal portion" with --distal end--.

Claim 27, line 5, replaced "portion" with --end--.

Claim 28, line 21, replaced "distal portion" with --distal end--.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the combination of cutting surface extending by about a first radius

36

Art Unit: 3731

from said axis of elongation and distal end of said body including a generally circular cross-section and tapered from the radius the cutting portion.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Truong whose telephone number is (703) 308-3767. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Michael Buiz can be reached at (703) 308-0871. The fax number for the Group is (703) 308-0758.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of the application should be directed to the Group receptionist at (703) 308-0858.



Kevin T. Truong
April 30, 1999



MICHAEL BUIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 3300

4/30/99

